

DISTRICT CRIME RECORD SMALL, DAVIS ASSERTS

Former District Attorney De-
fends City Before Dry
Bill Hearing.

PLEADS FOR A REFERENDUM

William F. Gude Declares People
Should Have Chance to
Record Themselves.

Advocates of a referendum on the
Sheppard prohibition bill began their
arguments today before the House
District Committee, and this side of
the prohibition question probably will
engage the attention of the commit-
tee for several days.

That the District of Columbia is
"the most orderly community of its
population in the world," was one
of the statements made before the
committee today by Henry E. Davis,
former District Attorney, who spoke
for the referendum.

Mr. Davis and William F. Gude,
president of the Referendum Associa-
tion, were the only witnesses to-
day. They were introduced by
Charles J. Columbus, secretary of the
association. John G. Capers, former
commissioner of internal revenue, is
scheduled to present a referendum ar-
gument tomorrow.

Little Crime Here.

In concluding his argument on the
legality of a referendum vote, Mr.
Davis said:

"I do not ask that you leave to a
referendum or a mass meeting the
actual writing of a law. Take the
Jones-Works bill and amend it as you
choose; take any bill that you please
and let the people vote on it as you
have drawn it. Make the law as
stringent as you please, but do not
force 'bone dry' prohibition upon the
District of Columbia without giving
us a chance to vote on the question."
"The District of Columbia is an or-
derly community. I challenge any-
body to find a city as large as this
with as little crime. This community
is as orderly and well governed as
any one earth, and I believe the per-
centage of crime to population is as
small as you can find anywhere."
"How many arrests for drunken-
ness were there last year?" asked
Chairman Johnson.

"I do not know," said Mr. Davis.
"But you have just said this was a
city with little crime."
"I am speaking of serious offenses,"
said Mr. Davis. "I was not referring
particularly to drunkenness, although
it will be no trouble to get the fig-
ures."

Mr. Davis reviewed the history of
the District of Columbia to show
(Continued on Page Thirteen.)

HUMAN CHAIN SAVES THREE

Skaters Make Rescue When Motor
Breaks Through Ice.

NYACK, N. Y., Feb. 13.—Dr. Louis
V. Waldron, director of the city de-
partment of child hygiene of Yonkers,
whose automobile has figured in sev-
eral accidents, and his son and
daughter, Victor and Mary, were in
danger of death this afternoon when
their automobile broke through the ice
while crossing the Hudson river.
After much difficulty they were re-
scued by skaters.
Dr. Waldron had driven the auto-
mobile across the ice on the river
from Tarrytown, making the wide
sweep over the frozen Tappan Zee,
when, within a hundred yards of the
Nyack shore, the ice began to sag
under the weight of the vehicle and
its occupants. Applying more power
the physician was able to get the
front wheels across the weak spot,
but the rear wheels crashed through
the ice.
Skaters hurried to the scene and Dr.
Waldron passed his children out over
the hood of the automobile to a "human
lifeline" that had been stretched
across the weak ice by the skaters
holding hands. Then the physician
was helped across.

3 AMERICANS ON SAXONIAN

One of Crew Injured When Vessel
Was Sunk.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—Three Ameri-
cans were included among fifteen
members of the crew of the steamer
Saxonian, sunk by a submarine on
February 8, landed today. W. E.
Gard, one of the Americans, was in-
jured. The others were Elwood
Moore and John Steffert.

The survivors declare the Saxonian
was torpedoed on Wednesday (Feb-
ruary 7) and that the vessel's crew
of thirty-eight left the sinking ship
in two boats. One of these boats was
afloat fifteen hours before being picked
up, and the other sixty-eight.
The Saxonian's boatwain died of
wounds and four of the crew were in-
jured.

FOG CHECKS FIGHTING

Artillery Duel Continues Along
Somme, Berlin Reports.

BERLIN (Via Sayville wireless),
Feb. 13.—Dense fog limited the ac-
tivity on the western front today, but
there were, nevertheless, three actions:
In the Somme sector an artillery
duel revived during the evening and
continued at night, and especially ac-
tive between St. Pierre Vaast Wood
and Peronne.
Advances of hostile reconnoitering
detachments between Ypres and Ar-
ras, the statement said, failed.

DENIES ACTION IN BARTHELME CASE

U. S. Has Not Arranged "Safe
Conduct" For German
Correspondent.

Official denial was made by the
State Department today that the
United States Government has arranged
for "safe conduct" back to Ger-
many for George Barthelme, corre-
spondent of the Cologne Gazette, who
has been identified as the chief propa-
gandist responsible for Germany's re-
cent "peace" proposal.

It was stated authoritatively that
the State Department is not concerned
in Barthelme's movements, has not
suggested his departure and does not
intend to do so.
It was as pointedly stated, however,
that Barthelme has been given to un-
derstand that he is no longer wel-
come around the State Department,
because there is a strong feeling that
he abused the privileges given him
by the Government in sending wire-
less dispatches to his paper in Ger-
many.

Publication of Barthelme's dispatch
to the Cologne Gazette, sent a day or
two after the break with Germany, is
held to show that he inspired the of-
fer to negotiate made by the German
government in the memorandum pre-
sented to the State Department by
the Swiss minister Saturday, and
signed by President Wilson in the
note just published.

STEEL OFFICIALS ALARMED BY FIRES

Munitions Makers At Giesboro
Point Annoyed By Two Blazes
Within Seven Hours.

Two fires of unexplained origin near
the plant of the Washington Steel and
Ordnance Company, munitions makers,
at Giesboro Point, Md., within less
than seven hours, have caused the
officials of that organization to in-
crease their watchmen's service to-
day, while an investigation is in
progress.

The first blaze, discovered at 3
o'clock last night, threatened a moun-
tain of coal, valued at \$50,000. Re-
ports that the fire was caused by
spontaneous combustion, were denied
today by officials. No explanation has
been given "yet," one official said.

Received Second Call.
Six and a half hours later, No. 25
Engine Company, which made the
mine and a half dash across the Dis-
trict to the plant, earlier in the even-
ing, received a second call. This time,
fire was found in a pile of steel shav-
ings.

Whether sparks from the fire en-
gines earlier in the evening, or from
the plant's smokestacks, started the
second blaze, is not known.

Extinguished at Midnight.
The fire, which began at 3 o'clock,
was not extinguished until midnight.

The fire is totally extinguished to-
day, officials stated. The pile of coal
contains about 10,000 tons.
Water poured from the coal from sev-
eral lines of hose promptly covered
the mass of coal with a coating of
ice. Two steam shovels were used,
and as the tongues bit into the solid
mass of ice and pulled huge "mouth-
fuls" of coal from the heap, streams
of water were poured into the exca-
vations.

U. S. WORKER SHOTS SELF

Dr. Willard D. Johnson Not Ex-
pected to Survive Wound.

Standing within fifteen feet of a
friend with whom he had just been
talking, and separated only by a thin
partition, Dr. Willard D. Johnson,
topographer of the Geological Survey,
shot himself shortly after noon today
while in a room of the Survey building,
1330 F street. Physicians held out
small hope for his recovery.
Dr. Johnson entered the building
about 12 o'clock, and went to the pho-
tographic laboratory, on the sixth
floor, greeted a friend, E. A. Luster,
Jr., a photographer of the survey, and
told him about a letter just received
concerning survey matters. In John-
son left the room and entered a
closet, a part of the laboratory par-
titioned off in which maps and photo-
graphs are kept.

A minute later a shot was heard,
bursting into the room. Luster found
the doctor on the floor, a pistol with-
in arm's reach. Physicians were called
from Emergency Hospital, and Dr.
W. F. Witt, a physician in the build-
ing, summoned.

HOLD SPY SUSPECT

Secret Service Investigates Man
Held in San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 13.—George
Kieft, believed to be a German agent,
is held at the Angel Island immigra-
tion station today, while United
States Secret Service agents are in-
vestigating his activities. Kieft ar-
rived from Manila on the transport
Sheridan as a stowaway.

According to officers of the Sheri-
dan, Kieft boarded the transport in
the uniform of an American soldier.
He was not discovered until the Sheri-
dan was several days out.
His trunk contained papers indicat-
ing he is a German agent.

DEFENSE BOARD LAYS PLANS TO MEET ANY FOE

Military, Naval, Industrial, and
Labor Heads Co-operate
to Prepare.

RAILROADS WILL ASSIST

Committees to Work Out Details
for Speedy Collection of
Necessary Supplies.

The United States is rapidly pre-
paring for war—if it comes.
Army men, railway heads, Navy of-
ficials, heads of the biggest indus-
trial plants in the world, the head
of the American Federation of Labor
—perhaps the largest organization of
its kind in the world—and financial
kings, have mapped out in almost
complete detail plans for mobilization
not only of men and munitions, but
of labor, capital, transportation facili-
ties, and all things that would go
to make for strength and power be-
hind as well as at the front.

The second meeting of the Council
of National Defense was attended to-
day by Secretaries Baker, Daniels,
Redfield, and Wilson. Brig. Gen.
William Kuhn, military attache in
Germany at the outbreak of the war,
detached at length the system by
which Germany mobilized her men
and materials.

Furnishes Purchasing Data.

E. S. Stettinius, of Morgan & Co.,
who has handled the details of all pur-
chases in this country for the entente
allies, will tell the council tomorrow
of the best way for mobilizing sup-
plies.
The committee on labor will be
headed by Samuel Gompers, president
of the American Federation of Labor.
Transportation and communication
will be put in charge of President
Willard, of the Baltimore and Ohio
railroad.

Science and research, including en-
gineering and educational problems,
will be handled by Commissioner God-
frey, of the council.

Bernard Baruch Appointed.
Bernard Baruch will be in charge
of rounding up raw materials, min-
erals, and metals.

Munitions, manufactures, and the
work of standardizing industrial pro-
cesses for war will be in charge of
Howard E. Coffin, of Detroit, presi-
dent of the Hudson Motor Car Com-
pany.

The rounding up of supplies, in-
cluding food and clothing, will be un-
der the direction of Julius Rosen-
wald, of Sears, Roebuck & Co.

Committee on Sanitation

Medicine and problems of general
sanitation will be handled by a com-
mittee under Commissioner Martin.
Willard said today that he held a
meeting yesterday in New York with
the heads of fifteen of the largest
railway lines of the country, at which
was decided to make the American
Railways Association the instrument
for handling all transportation of
men and supplies.

Committees of railway presidents
will be organized in each of the four
military departments—Northern,
Southern, Eastern, and Western—and
the problems of each department's
transportation difficulties will be
worked out by each divisional com-
mittee.

Electric Lines Co-operating

President Harris, of the American
Association of Electric Railway Lines,
announced today that the electric
lines were ready to co-operate in any
work, so that transportation can be
facilitated.

Urged U-Boat War

Simultaneously the powerful con-
servative landowners, controlling the
food supply, and the equally power-
ful group of industrial leaders, con-
trolling munition manufactures, told
the government the only way to end
the war was by unlimited submarine
warfare. These interests have al-
ways been anti-American. They suc-
ceeded in convincing Quartermaster
General von Ludendorff.
Meanwhile, the National Liberals,
who would welcome war with Amer-
ica, (Continued on Page Twelve.)

WHITE STAR STEAMER AFRIC SUNK IN ZONE BARRED BY BERLIN DECREE; BIGGEST VICTIM OF NEW WARFARE

German Officials Astonished
When U. S. Breaks Relations
In U-Boat Crisis.

WERE MISLED BY REPORTS

Had Reports Wilson Could Not
Act for Fear of German
Uprising.

CHANCELLOR CAST DOWN

Military Authorities Do Not Fear
U. S. Entry Into War
Against Germany.

The following cablegram was filed at
Bern by Carl W. Ackerman, the
United Press Berlin Correspondent, who
left Germany with Ambassador Gerard's
party. It is an uncorrected statement
of conditions in Germany from the
standpoint of the higher army officials:

BERNE, Switzerland, Feb. 13.—Berlin
was astonished, officials and the
public alike, when President Wilson
broke relations with Germany.

That astonishment came because
officials had recently been assured by
German-Americans in the United
States that Wilson would not sever
relations for fear of a German-Ameri-
can uprising. The same belief was
held by the German public.

When the American embassy train
left Berlin, the imperial chancellor
von Bethman-Hollweg was admitted
downcast over the situation, and
believed America wanted war with
Germany.

It was noticeable also when For-
eign Secretary Zimmermann received
the American correspondence shortly
before their departure he was plainly
very nervous.

Said Wilson Wanted War

He likewise insisted "Wilson wants
war," and denied that Germany made
any irrevocable promises in the Spa-
sex note.

The submarine policy, which forced
the break between the United States
and Germany dates back to Novem-
ber 5.

Writing now from neutral Swiss
soil, it is possible for the first time
to tell the developments which led
Germany to her decision of relentless
sea war.

Determination to use the submarine
in unlimited warfare dates back to
November. It was then that Germany's
internal affairs were at the greatest
crisis of the war. The Socialists
warned the Kaiser that unless he
moved immediately for peace, Dr.
Philipp Scheidemann (Socialist leader
in the Reichstag) and other Socialist
leaders would head a militant move-
ment to bring about peace. This move-
ment came at a time when the German
people were destitute and dependent.

Urged U-Boat War

Simultaneously the powerful con-
servative landowners, controlling the
food supply, and the equally power-
ful group of industrial leaders, con-
trolling munition manufactures, told
the government the only way to end
the war was by unlimited submarine
warfare. These interests have al-
ways been anti-American. They suc-
ceeded in convincing Quartermaster
General von Ludendorff.
Meanwhile, the National Liberals,
who would welcome war with Amer-
ica, (Continued on Page Twelve.)

BRYAN'S PART IN PEACE GAME

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 13.—Replying to a telegram
from the Christian Science Monitor regarding his alleged
participation in the sending of the wireless private peace
plea to Germany, William J. Bryan telegraphed as follows:

"I have not seen the story to which you refer, but can give you
the facts. I did not see the German ambassador or anyone rep-
resenting him. An American citizen asked me how a communication
in the interest of peace could be sent to Germany by wireless.

"I advised him to take the matter up with Secretary Daniels, who
has supervision over wireless stations, and gave him a letter of
identification to the Secretary.
"I have no knowledge as to the contents of the message and do
not know whether it was sent.
"Miami, Fla."

U. S. PLANS TO USE ALL MOTOR BOATS

Power Craft of Potomac Will Be
Utilized In Case War is
Declared.

Plans to utilize all the large motor
boats in the Potomac river as sub-
marine chasers in event of war with
Germany, are nearing completion at
the Navy Department.

The Potomac river power boats
probably will be sent to Norfolk to
join "mosquito" fleets of at least
2,500 boats which will aid in defend-
ing the Atlantic coast from submarine
attack.

Contracts Are Prepared.

Five forms of contracts have been
prepared by the Navy Department for
acquiring these boats for Government
use. One plan provides for immedi-
ate purchase by navy yard com-
mandants and the others provide for
the purchase by appraisal, for leasing
to the Government, and for out-
right gift to the Government.

There are now 250 motor boats
available as part of the naval re-
serve. One thousand additional boats
have been found to meet every Gov-
ernment requirement. There is anoth-
er thousand which can be pressed into
service.

Plans Are Complete.

In addition the Navy Department
has completed plans for a model mil-
itary motor boat which Government
plants will start turning out at the
outbreak of war.

These boats can be completed in
two months. They will be of wooden
construction so that no demand will
be made on the services of steel
workmen, who are needed for battle-
ship construction.

The power boats will be armed with
small guns, not exceeding six inches
in diameter, and no boat less than
fifty feet in length will be mobilized
in the "mosquito" fleet.

FEAR OLD MAIDENHOOD.

JOHNSTOWN, Pa., Feb. 13.—The
unmarried young women of Kantner,
a mining town, have organized a "club
for the prevention of old maidenhood."
Owing to the lack of remunerative
employment for many of the young
men of Kantner and the alluring of-
fers received from other business cen-
ters, the marriageable youths have
all gone and the girls are viewing
the future with alarm.

The club will make an offer to re-
vive old engagements and open new
matrimonial deals.

DR. M'KIM SCORED ON FLOOR OF HOUSE

Congressman Moore Attacks
Clergyman for Signing
"Declaration of War."

The Rev. Dr. Randolph H. McKim,
pastor of the Church of the Epiphany,
was severely criticized on the floor of
the House today by Congressman J.
Hampton Moore of Pennsylvania, as
the signer of an advertisement by the
American Rights League, which, ac-
cording to Mr. Moore, amounts to "a
diabolical declaration of war against
Germany."

Mr. Moore said he questioned wheth-
er Dr. McKim "would stay in the pul-
pit an hour" if the founder of Chris-
tianity were to pass judgment upon
his signature to such a document.

Mr. Moore said the declaration of
war against Germany was carried in
an advertisement of the American
Rights League, signed by Dr. Lyman
Abbott and the Rev. Dr. McKim,
among others.

Charges Pressed Out.

Mr. Moore's sensational speech be-
gan by quotation from a speech
printed in the Record by Congress-
man Callaway of Texas, who claimed
that twenty-five of the greatest news-
papers in the United States have sold
out to the Morgan interests and the
steel and the munitions interests.

Mr. Moore then proceeded to read
editorials reflecting English senti-
ments. He continued:

"I will not go on with these edi-
torials. Every man who reads the
newspapers knows the tone and senti-
ment of these editorials. But here is
something more commercial, however,
as fresh as in time of universal peace.
Here is a three-column advertisement
in one of the great newspapers, and
I understand it has gone into all the
great newspapers of the country in
infusing public sentiment. It is
headed:

"To the American people. Ger- many is at war with the United States.

The reputation of past pledges and
the threat to destroy our ships and
citizens without warning constitute
a virtual declaration of war."

Who Declares War.

"Who says this? The President of
the United States? The Congress of
the United States? The only power
under the Constitution who can de-
clare war? Who is it that makes
this bold declaration to the common
people of this land that we are now
at war with Germany?"

"The advertisement continues: 'It is
no longer a question whether there
shall be war with Germany. There
is war with Germany. The only ques-
tion is whether our Government shall
submit to Germany's dictation to the
outrages of her submarine warfare or
whether it shall forcibly defend
American property.'"

SEIZES URUGUAY CRUISER

Buenos Aires Hears British Warship
Took Neutral Vessel.

BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 13.—An "un-
confirmed report" printed today in
the Standard, Buenos Aires' English
newspaper, asserts that British cruis-
ers have seized the Uruguayan cruiser
Uruguay off the Brazilian coast and
towed her to the Falklands.

The reason given for the seizure,
according to this report, was that the
ship was sending wireless messages
to German ships.

TWO LINERS MAKE PORT

Armed Cunarders Arrive at New
York From Liverpool.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—The Laconia
and the Ascania, Cunard liners, steam-
ed into New York harbor today un-
expectedly. Both carried passengers
and light cargoes. The Ascania regu-
larly plies between Montreal and
Liverpool. This is her second visit
to New York.

The Laconia is a sister-ship of the
Franconia, which was torpedoed a
year ago.
Both vessels are armed.

Opening of U. S. Ports to Sub-
marine Chasers of Allies
Is Proposed.

SENATE ACTION IS ASKED

Immediate Release of Yarrow-
dale Men Is Demanded
By Wilson.

SITUATION NEAR CLIMAX

President Lays Plans Before
Cabinet at Long Ses-
sion Today.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—The White
Star steamer Afric was sunk today.
The Afric was a steel vessel of
11,999 tons, one of the biggest so
far reported to have fallen victim to
the German submarine warfare. She
was the property of the White Star
line and was registered at Liverpool.
The Afric was 550 feet in length,
with a beam of 63 feet.
The biggest ship previously sunk
since the new U-boat decree was the
California.

The Afric was sunk in the barred zone.

The Afric was sunk in the barred
zone.

WOULD AID U-BOAT CHASERS

Saulsbury Would Open Ports of the
U. S. to Ships.

Senator Saulsbury today offered a
resolution to throw down the neutral-
ity bars and throw open all United
States ports to allied warships. He
said this "might enable this Govern-
ment, without a declaration of war to
assist in preventing violation of
rights to the sea by giving assistance
to those at present engaged in com-
bating these violations."

Wordings of Resolution.

"Whenever a state of war exists be-
tween two or more nations with
whom the United States are at peace
and one or more of the belligerents
shall upon the high seas enter upon,
engage or permit a course of war-
fare or use a method not justified or
warranted by the laws of war as gen-
erally accepted or as construed by
this Government, the ports, harbors,
and waters of the United States may,
as freely as in time of universal peace,
be resorted to, used, and frequented
by the warships or other vessels of
any other belligerent, however armed,
for the possible purpose of capturing,
destroying, resisting or escaping from
any vessel of the belligerent or bel-
ligerents engaged in such unwarranted
course of warfare, or using such
illegal methods."

Provided before the ports, harbors, and waters of the United States may be resorted to, used and frequented, the President shall by proclamation declare that proper occasion has arisen therefor under the terms of this act."

"This step may be very effective,"
said Saulsbury, "without a declaration
of war on the part of the United
States."

Referred to Committee.

The resolution was referred to the
Senate Foreign Relations Committee.
Senator Stone, chairman of the
Foreign Relations Committee, is op-
posed to the plan to throw open the
ports to belligerent ships.

"I am opposed to any plan to throw
open our ports to the battleships of
belligerent nations," said Stone. "I
do not know how other members of
the Foreign Relations Committee feel
toward it, but I personally am op-
posed to it."

Pre-emptory Demand.

A pre-emptory demand for immedi-
ate release of Americans detained in
Germany and a decision regarding the
arming of American merchant ships
as a means of protection against Ger-
man submarines are expected within
the next twenty-four hours to bring
the German crisis to a climax.

Despite absence of any definite
"overt act" in the German submarine
war zone, the situation is rapidly crys-
tallizing into a state of affairs which
officials frankly admit is